

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

12. LAUREL CREEK COVERED BRIDGE

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER Secondary Route 23/4 at junction of  
Secondary Route 219/11 crossing Laurel Creek

CITY, TOWN

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

X VICINITY OF Lillydale2

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY

Monroe

CODE

063**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENT☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☒ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

West Virginia Department of Highways

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1900 Washington Street, East

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

VICINITY OF

STATE

West Virginia 25305

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Nonroe County Court House

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Union

STATE

West Virginia

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

SIG  
PER

## 17 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Laurel Creek Covered Bridge is 13 feet-2½ inches wide and has the smallest span of all West Virginia's covered bridges with a bottom chord length of 24.5 feet. The covering consists of wooden siding painted barn red and a galvanized metal roof, which replaced the original roof of chestnut shakes.

Having no verticals, the truss is comprised of two 5 x 9 ¾ inch diagonals extending from the ends of the dual membered bottom chord to a point six feet above the bottom chord, where the separation between the diagonals is approximately five feet. A metal tension rod is looped around the transverse floor beam (located below the bottom chord at midspan) and is bolted to the top ends of the diagonals. A single metal rod extends from the transverse floor beam to the center of the top chord and is bolted to the top chord and the transverse floor beam. Two diagonal braces extend from the top of the diagonals to the ends of the longitudinal roof beam. The deck, once supported on 3 x 12 inch wooden stringers, now rests on seven 6½ x 12 inch wide flange stringers.

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE - CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On July 19, 1910, J. C. McClaugherty (the county road engineer), H. W. Peck and Robert Arnott were appointed commissioners to locate a site for and estimate the cost of building a bridge across Laurel Creek near Robert Arnott's residence. After the commissioners made a report of their findings to the court on August 26, 1910, the court ordered that a covered bridge with stone abutments be built at the site selected near Robert Arnott's (1).

Lewis Miller built the stone abutments and the superstructure was built by Robert Arnott. The oak timbers obtained for building the superstructure were seasoned approximately one year before they were used. Lon Wickline fashioned the chestnut shakes, which originally covered the roof and the iron work was done in Fonceverte (2). On August 22, 1911 the court ordered that Robert Arnott be paid out of the county treasury for the construction of the bridge (3). The total cost of construction was \$355.00 (2).

The Laurel Creek Covered Bridge is the smallest covered bridge in West Virginia and the use of metal tension rods in its construction is typical of the bridges found in the southern part of the state. It is one of the two remaining covered bridges in Monroe County.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Order Book #4, Monroe County, p. 49, 70, 154.
2. Interview with Lucille and Lee Arnott, August 20, 1979.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Not applicable

QUADRANGLE NAME Greenville

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 7 5, 3, 2, 9, 6, 5 4, 1, 5, 6, 9, 7, 5

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                                    

E                                    

G                                    

B                                    

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D                                    

F                                    

H                                    

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E.L. Kemp, Professor History of Science & Technology and of Civil Engineering

ORGANIZATION

DATE

West Virginia University

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

G14 Woodburn Hall, Town Campus

(304) 293-3867

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Morgantown,

West Virginia 26506

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

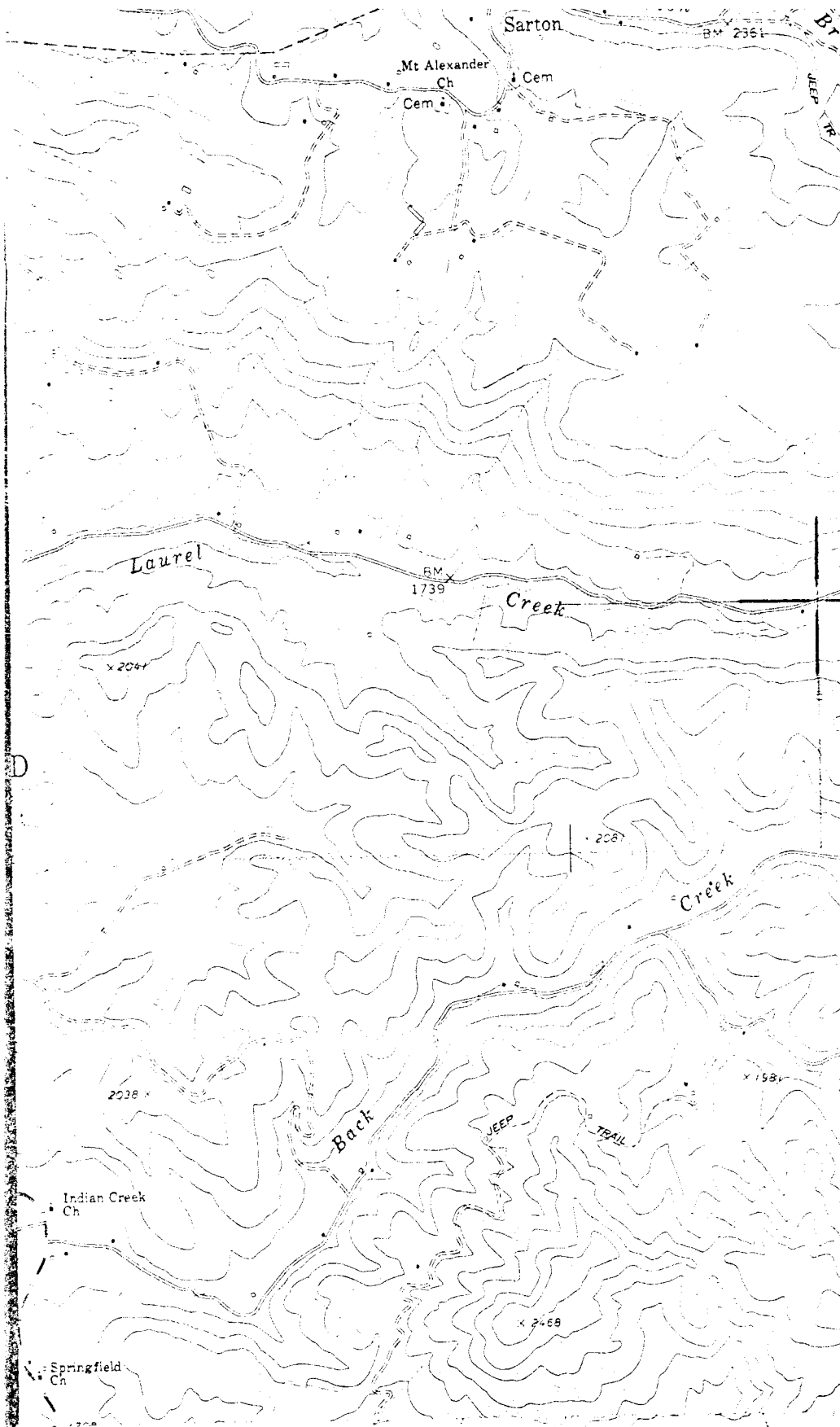
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



4159

4158

4156

4155

4154

32'30"

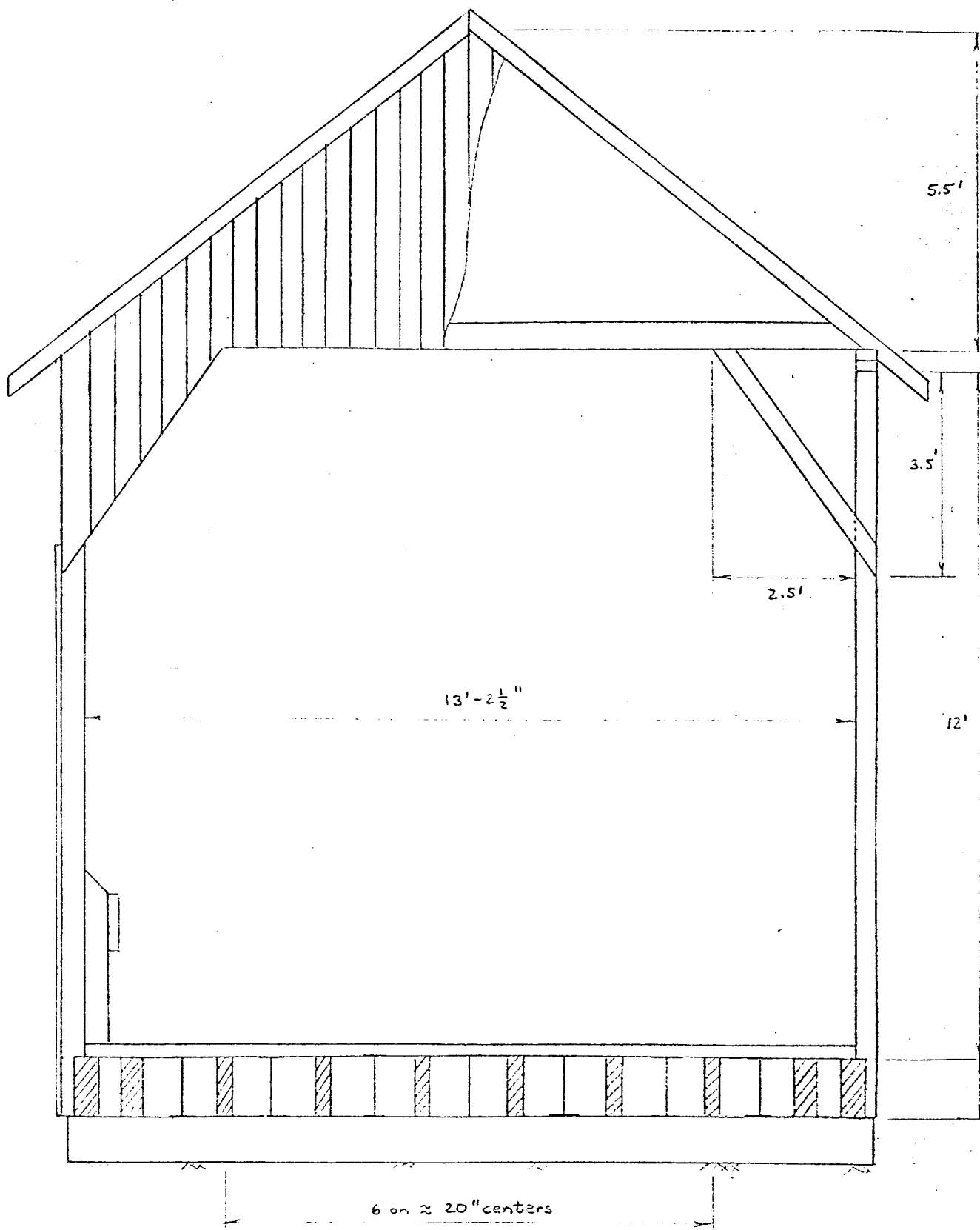
UTM

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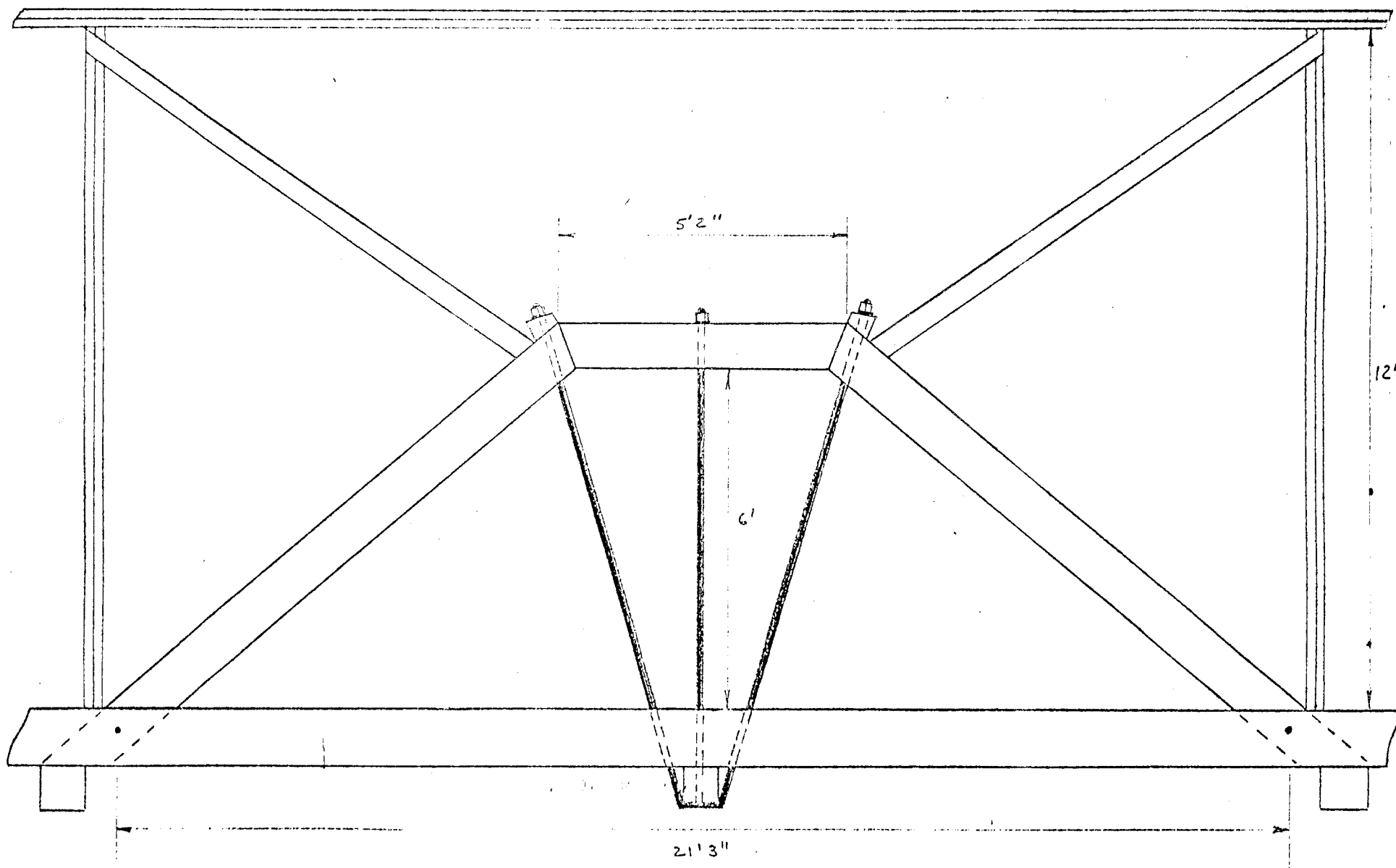
LAUREL CREEK  
COVERED BRIDGE  
LILLYDALE  
VICINITY  
MONROE COUNTY  
WEST VIRGINIA

(UNION)  
4859 11 SE





15. LAUREL CREEK COVERED BRIDGE



15. LAUREL CREEK COVERED BRIDGE

GROSS WEIGHT  
OVER  
10,000 LBS.  
PROHIBITED  
BY ORDER  
STATE ROAD  
COMMISSIONER

